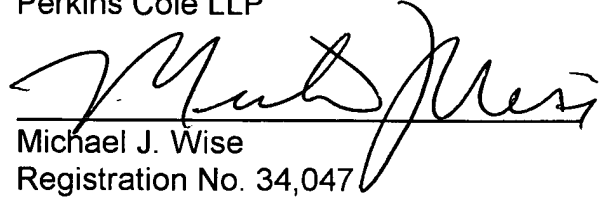


REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the application in view of this preliminary amendment. If the Examiner has any questions or matters that can be expediently handled by telephone, he or she is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (310) 788-3219.

Respectfully submitted,

Perkins Coie LLP


Michael J. Wise
Registration No. 34,047

Date: 12/5/03

Correspondence Address:

Customer No. 34055
Patent - LA
Perkins Coie LLP
P.O. Box 1208
Seattle, WA 98111-1208
Phone: (310) 788-9900
Fax: (206) 332-7198